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beauty of the Caucasian littoral surpasses that of the Mediterranean pleasure resorts. The inhabitants of this region are inclined to be indolent and lack initiative. On the other hand, they have extraordinary endurance. Tea plantations flourish and a considerable amount of wine is produced. The table mineral waters are highly effervescent. The well known Narzan and other brands are much appreciated throughout the Russian Empire and are now an important item of export. Mr. Martel was surprised to find that in a large hôtel-pension at Sochi, one of the fashionable stations, only mineral water, tea and coffee could be obtained. He compares these Russian hotels to the temperance houses in Ireland.

Geographically, the value of this book is increased by the fact that the author carefully read and studied all the books and articles written on this region, enumerates and cites them frequently, pointing out diversity of opinion, errors in estimated altitudes, etc. The descriptive part of the volume is very entertaining, written in a vivacious and easy style, with touches of humor truly Gallic.

H. DE HUTOROWICZ.

**Sicily, the Garden of the Mediterranean.** The History, People, Institutions, and Geography of the Island. By Will S. Monroe. xx and 405 pp., numerous Illustrations, and Index. L. C. Page & Co., Boston, 1909. \$3.

A good book written with a sincere purpose to make it useful to the tourist and interesting and instructive to the general reader. The human side of the subject is emphasized and the larger part of the book is given to the manners, customs, habits and institutions of the Sicilians. The topics, in order of treatment are the geography of Sicily, its history, the ethnic, moral and social conditions of the people, hostelry, brigandage, the Mafia, religion, education, industries, commerce and the creative arts. The final chapters are on Mount Etna, the leading cities and their chief monuments, the Messina earthquake, suggestions for tourists and a select bibliography.

**Through Uganda to Mount Elgon.** By J. B. Purvis. 371 pp., 42 Illustrations, Map and Index. American Tract Society, New York, 1909. \$1.50.

This excellent book was written by a missionary who has long lived and labored in British Central Africa. He records here the results of years of observation and experience and his book, though an entertaining narrative, is not superficial. A third of it is given to his latest journey, this time by rail, from the Indian Ocean to Victoria Nyanza, the present condition of the tribes along the way, the effect upon them of the white domination, and the dread scourge of sleeping sickness.

Another third is devoted to Uganda in its past and present aspects; and the author vividly depicts the rapid strides that have been made in bridging the gulf between primitive barbarism and western civilization. He deplores, however, the present stagnation in the religious life of the people who are thirsting, instead, for general education and material good. The government is doing nothing towards the industrial education of the natives and such progress as has been made in this direction is due to missionary effort. Progress is now embarrassed by shortness of the labor supply and the regular increase of wages.

The last third relates to the almost unknown region east of the Nile to Mount